



COMMISSION ON AGING

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING

Minutes

January 28, 2013

PRESIDING: Deborah Adler, Chair

Members Attending

Peter Brunner
John Eberhard
Roxanne Farrar
Julia Mattis
Richard McCray
Ted Meyerson
Andrew Monjan
S.K. Shin
Sharonlee Vogel
Laureen Wylie

Not Present

Chan Su Chong
Debbie Fleischmann
Carolyn Rimes

Office on Aging

Dayna Brown, Administrator

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm.

Approve Agenda

Sharonlee Vogel moved to accept the agenda and Peter Brunner seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Agenda accepted.*

Approve Minutes

Sharonlee Vogel moved to accept the minutes and Julia Mattis seconded the motion. Motion was approved. *All in favor. Minutes accepted.*

Chair's Report

Membership Update

Eletta Morse has been recommended to the County Council to fill the vacancy left by Saba Sheikh. Her appointment will be reviewed by the Council in February.

Legislative Breakfast Follow-up

The Commission discussed December's Legislative Breakfast. For future events, topics will be discussed with the entire membership and Commission positions (determined by the majority) will be presented at the breakfast.

Summary of 2012 Achievements

The Commission will work to create a summary of its achievements in 2012. Laureen Wylie will draft the summary for the next meeting.

Office on Aging Report

Cancer Prevention Study

Dayna Brown presented information from the American Cancer Society regarding a long-term study on cancer detection and prevention. The American Cancer Society is looking nationwide for volunteers to become program "champions" and recruit people for the study. Requirements are ages 30-65 and never had a cancer diagnosis. In addition to the materials handed out, Dayna will forward an email with information.

Program Update

The Office will be debuting a new program, Cycle2Health this spring. Cycle2Health is a volunteer-led cycling program. Participants are required to provide their own equipment, but rides will be appropriate for a variety of levels.

Pets on Wheels has changed its name to Paws4Comfort. Pets on Wheels began making demands on the program that could not be met; as a result the office decided to change the name and no longer be affiliated with Pets on Wheels. The Friends group will change their name to match the Office's.

Budget

The Department of Citizen Services will be submitting their budget Thursday, January 31. Office on Aging submitted a status quo budget, with no requests for new funding. In response to Waiver Case Management becoming a billable service, the Office is asking for more general fund dollars in the Case Managers salaries. This proposed increase is requested due to the number of days the Case Managers cannot bill, which in Howard County includes personal, vacation, and required meeting days.

Brainstorming on Successful Aging

What Does Successful Aging Look Like?

- Transportation
 - Mobility
 - Walkability-able to walk to a destination
 - Education on Aging in the Community
- Legislative Positions on community design
- Social Interaction/Fostering Social Interaction
- Engaged in Meaningful Activity
 - Intergenerational Activities
 - Volunteer Using Skills and Knowledge
 - Oral Histories
- Health and Wellness Options
- Recreation, Arts, and Entertainment Options
- Option to Work at Any Age
- Helping Services (Handyman, cleaning, etc)
- Lifelong Learning Options
- Creating Public Partnerships
 - Public Library
 - National Guard
 - Churches/Interfaith Centers
- Place for Spiritual Growth/Development
- Social Retirement-what to do now that you don't have to do anything
- Creating Intentional Communities-idea of "warm houses"

Task Forces and Committee Reports

MDCOA –Sharonlee reported that Mike LaChance has retired from the Department on Aging, but the new staff member, Donna DeLeno Neuworth, seems able to fill his shoes. At the last meeting, Secretary Lawlah reported that the budget was expected to move forward intact.

Columbia Association Senior Advisory Committee (SAC)-

Sharonlee shared that the SAC continues to be involved in meetings regarding the formation of a Village in Howard County. In addition CA has formed a workgroup on the needs of the impending “silver tsunami” and SAC members are contributing to the workgroup.

Senior Events Shuttle

John reported that the shuttle is more popular than ever, but resources are running low. Plans are being explored to make the shuttle more cost effective, including working with senior communities and residences like Vantage House to find contributions for bus service or discuss using their buses for transport.

United Seniors of Maryland

A position is available to represent the Commission on United Seniors of Maryland. Meetings are held 8 times per year in Annapolis and feature relevant guest speakers. If you are interested in representing the COA at United Seniors meetings, please let Deborah Adler know via email.

Old Business –

None

New Business/Community News –

Maryland Older Drivers’ Symposium-

John reported that the MVA will be holding another symposium this year, most likely in April. The symposium will focus on keeping people independent through safe transportation. A partnership with MGA will allow CEUs to be awarded for attending.

Adjournment

John Eberhard motioned to adjourn. Sharonlee Vogel seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:40pm.

Recording Secretary: Jennifer Rittenhouse

Next Meeting: February 25, 2013, Ellicott City Senior Center, 7pm